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MINUTES LIBRARY

OF THE

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

UNITY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

Ebenezer Baptist Church, Stanton, Chilton Co., Ala.,

Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 2 and 3, 1889.

Howard College Library

OFFICERS:

A. J. BROOKS, Moderator,	. . .	Verbena, Ala.
W. J. RUDDICK, Clerk,	. . .	Stanton, Ala.
K. WELLS, Treasurer,	. . .	Verbena, Ala.

*The next session will be held with Big Spring Church,
Autauga County, Ala., on Wednesday, Oct. 1, 1890.*

MONTGOMERY, ALA:
PRESS OF THE BAPTIST PRINTING COMPANY.
1889.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Devotional Exercises, 10 to 11 A. M.
2. 11 A. M., Introductory Sermon.
3. Call to order.
4. Letters read.
5. Organization.
6. Rules of Decorum.
7. Ministers not messengers invited to seats.
8. Admission of new Churches.
9. Correspondence received and returned.
10. Appoint Committees to report this session—
 - On Preaching.
 - Letters and Documents.
 - Periodicals.
 - Aged and Infirm Ministers and Families of Deceased Ministers.
 - Deceased Ministers.
 - Finance.
 - To select Preacher of next Introductory Sermon.
 - Select Delegates to Southern Baptist Convention.
11. Committees to report next session—
 - On Missions—State, Home and Foreign.
 - Education.
 - Ministerial Education.
 - Temperance.
 - Sabbath Schools.
 - Family Training.
12. Miscellaneous Business.
13. The business of the session will be taken up, so as to insure proper time for debate and economy of time.

MINUTES.

1. The Unity Association met in its thirty-fifth annual session with the Ebenezer Church, Stanton, Ala., October 2nd, 1889, at 10 A. M.

2. Devotional exercises were engaged in for forty minutes, conducted by W. N. Huckabee.

3. At 11 A. M. the introductory sermon was preached by Eld. G. W. Mills, from Mark 13:37. Subject, "Watchfulness."

4. Took recess till 1:30 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

5. 1:30 P. M. The Moderator, A. J. Brooks, called the body to order, read Psalm 19th and the Association was led in prayer by O. W. Sherrer.

6. The Association was presented with a black walnut gavel by W. N. Huckabee, in the name of his wife, Mrs. Martha Huckabee, as a token of her respect for the Christian character of the brethren who have occupied the chair. The gavel was accepted and Dr. W. C. Cleveland responded in appropriate remarks.

7. Letters from the churches were read, and delegates enrolled as follows:

Alpine—C. W. Klenner.
Autaugaville—O. W. Sherrer.
Bethesda—G. W. Smith, H. M. Pool, Willie Jones.
Bethsalem—J. R. Vinson, H. M. Wilkins.
Big Springs—Wm. Willis, W. W. Carter.
Cane Creek—M. A. Kilgoer, J. P. Goer.
Chestnut Creek—J. H. Griffiths.
Ebenezer—A. A. Dyer, O. P. McGee, W. J. Ruddick, T. D. Dubose, I. G. White, D. W. Wilkins.
Evergreen—W. W. Caffey, H. Overstreet, J. L. Wright, D. M. Apperson.
Fellowship—J. R. Hooks, D. C. Gandy, J. E. Terry.
Friendship—J. L. Long.
Harmony—H. E. Wallace, T. D. Chamblis.
Liberty—S. B. Wilder.
Mt. Carmel—G. W. Patrick.
Mt. Olive—I. A. Hopper.
Mulberry—J. J. Veasy, J. L. Williams.
Plantersville—G. W. Mills, P. M. Moore, W. N. Huckabee.
Pleasant Grove—T. N. Lawrence, R. Latham, J. H. Shoultz.
Providence—Moses Roberson, E. H. Parrish.
Sardis—A. G. Patrick.
Shady Grove—A. Andrews, O. Moore, G. A. Underwood.
Shiloh—R. L. Williams.
Valley Creek—T. A. Gay, T. G. Milling, J. G. Gay, R. J. Mitchell, E. J. Milling.
Verbena—K. Wells, A. J. Brooks, W. B. Strock.

8. On motion of O. W. Sherrer, the former officers were re-elected by acclamation.

9. Rules of Decorum were read by the Clerk.

10. Received correspondence—

From Shelby Association—Dr. W. C. Cleveland, T. M. Fancher.
 From Mulberry—J. M. Connell, A. E. Burns.
 Alabama Baptist was represented by J. M. Kailin; State Missions by W. J. Ruddick; Home Missions by J. M. McCord; Foreign Missions by W. N. Huckabee

11. The Moderator stated that the Coosa River Association had appointed correspondents who failed to attend.

12. Returned correspondence—

To Shelby—K. Wells, W. J. Ruddick, B. T. Raspberry, G. W. Mills, J. M. McCord.

To Mulberry—A. J. Brooks, W. B. Strock.

13. The delegates to the State Convention were retained as printed in the minutes of 1888, except G. W. Mills substituted for W. G. Curry.

To Weogufka—Hardy Jones, M. A. Kilgoer

To Coosa River—W. N. Huckabee, P. M. Moore.

14. A collection of \$27.15 was taken up to place a tombstone at the grave of Eld. H. E. Longrier, for many years clerk of this Association.

15. On motion of O. W. Sherrer, a committee consisting of W. N. Huckabee, G. W. Mills and P. M. Moore, were entrusted with the work.

16. The Moderator appointed the following committees to report to this session:

On Preaching—Pastor and deacons of Ebenezer church.

Letters and Documents—W. N. Huckabee, H. E. Wallace, R. L. Williams.

Deceased Ministers—J. L. Williams, Moses Roberson, M. D. Pinson.

Periodicals—J. G. White, W. B. Strock, O. Moore.

Aged and Infirm Ministers—O. W. Sherrer, H. Overstreet, Willie Jones.

Finance—W. A. Smith, W. L. Parnell, A. A. Dyer.

Special—T. D. Dubose, E. J. Milling, G. W. Patrick.

17. On motion of W. N. Huckabee, a committee of five be appointed to draft an associational letter.

18. On motion, a committee was appointed to select the preachers of the next introductory and missionary sermons.

Committee—J. J. Letcher, C. W. Klenner, D. C. Gandy.

19. A committee consisting of K. Wells, S. B. Wilder and J. Griffis was appointed to select delegate and alternate to the Southern Baptist Convention.

20. 11 A. M. to-morrow was appointed as the hour for the missionary sermon.

21. The Association then adjourned till 9 A. M. to-morrow, and was dismissed by W. C. Cleveland.

SECOND DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

22. The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by A. E. Burns.

23. On motion, the regular order of business was suspended.

24. The Committee on Delegates to the Southern Baptist

Convention made their report as follows: W. N. Huckabee; G. W. Mills alternate. Report adopted.

25. The Executive Committee, through A. J. Brooks, reported. W. J. Ruddick, pastor at Autaugaville, read his report in connection. Reports adopted and ordered printed, after remarks by A. Andrews, W. N. Huckabee, O. W. Sherrer and J. M. McCord.

26. A. J. Brooks stated that he had in his possession a copy of the deed of the Autaugaville church property.

27. Abner Williams was recognized as a correspondent from the Coosa River Association and as agent for the Judson. D. C. Culbreth was received from the Cahaba Association, and G. S. Anderson as vice-president of the Home Mission Board.

28. J. L. Williams read a report on Deceased Ministers. Adopted.

29. O. W. Sherrer read a report on Aged and Infirm Ministers, and after remarks by J. L. Long it was adopted.

30. The report on Letters and Documents was made by W. N. Huckabee and adopted.

31. The Committee on Periodicals reported through I. G. White, and was discussed by J. M. Kailin, W. C. Cleveland and W. N. Huckabee. The report after amendment was adopted.

32. As the Committee on Letters and Documents did not suggest the next place of meeting of this Association, on motion, Big Spring Church was selected.

33. A motion by G. W. Mills to dispense with Missionary Sermon, was adopted.

34. The report of the Sub-Ministerial Board of this Association was read by the Chairman, W. N. Huckabee, and the report was concurred in.

35. J. W. Mitchell presented the report on State Missions. It was discussed by W. J. Ruddick, J. M. Kailin, W. C. Cleveland and A. Andrews, and then adopted.

36. The report on Home Missions was read by J. L. Long, discussed by G. S. Anderson, J. M. McCord and A. Andrews, and adopted.

37. The report on Foreign Missions was read by W. J. Ruddick; after being discussed by W. N. Huckabee and W. C. Cleveland, it was adopted. Before it was adopted a collection of \$23.16 was taken for missions.

38. Adjourned to 2 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

39. 1:30 P. M. Met thirty minutes early on account of pressure of business.

40. The report on Temperance was read by the Clerk, and on motion it was referred to a committee consisting of O. W. Sherrer, W. B. Strock, B. T. Raspberry.

41. G. W. Mills read the report on Family Training; after discussion by A. Andrews, W. N. Huckabee and J. M. McCord, it was adopted.

42. The committee to select the preachers for the next session, reported as follows:

J. W. Mitchell, to preach Introductory Sermon; S. M. Adams, alternate. To preach Missionary Sermon, W. J. Ruddick.

Report was adopted.

43. T. D. Dubose read the report of the Special Committee. It was discussed by W. N. Huckabee, R. J. Mitchell, A. Andrews, W. J. Ruddick, and adopted.

44. A motion to continue the Executive Committee was adopted.

45. The report on Ministerial Education was read by the Clerk and discussed by W. N. Huckabee, D. C. Culbreth, A. Andrews and W. C. Cleveland; \$200 was pledged for this work and the report was adopted.

46. The Moderator appointed the following committees to report next session:

State Missions—P. C. Dennis, H. E. Wallace, N. L. Broadhead.

Home Missions—G. W. Mills, Edmund Hayes, F. G. Milling.

Foreign Missions—W. J. Ruddick, R. E. R. Hicks, W. W. Caffey.

Education—H. W. Caffey, J. R. Caldwell, J. L. Williams.

Ministerial Education—J. W. Mitchell, B. T. Raspberry, G. A. Underwood.

Temperance—T. L. Jones, W. D. Sartor, T. D. Dubose.

Family Training—W. N. Huckabee, E. H. Parrish, W. W. Carter.

Bible Schools—W. J. Flanning, A. A. Dyer, J. L. Long.

To Draft Letter—W. N. Huckabee, W. J. Ruddick, J. M. McCord, A. A. Dyer, I. G. White.

Ministerial Board—W. N. Huckabee, W. J. Ruddick, J. Falkner.

47. Report on Sabbath Schools read by S. B. Wilder, and adopted without discussion.

48. A. A. Dyer read the report on Education. After speeches from Abner Williams and A. Andrews the report was adopted.

49. The committee to whom was referred the report on Temperance submitted a substitute, which was adopted.

50. Finance Committee submitted their report; adopted.

51. On motion, \$70 was appropriated for minutes, clerk's fee and printing blank associational letter.

52. The Treasurer reported \$189 95 on hand for missions.

53. The following resolution was offered by K. Wells, and on motion it was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are hereby tendered to the Ebenezer Church and community for their hospitality during our session.

54. The business of the Association being finished, on motion adjourned to meet with Big Spring Church, Autauga County, Ala., October 1st, 1890.

55. The Association joined in singing, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," and was dismissed by D. C. Culbreth.

A. J. BROOKS, MODERATOR.

W. J. RUDDICK, Clerk.

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REPORTS.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee beg to report that nothing has been done by them during the present year except to recommend and have continued the work at Autaugaville.

We recommend that W. J. Ruddick be requested to continue the work at Autaugaville this year and the State Board be asked for \$75 to aid in his support.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. BROOKS, Ch'n.

REPORT OF W. J. RUDDICK, PASTOR AT AUTAUGAVILLE.

Since my last report I have only been enabled to visit Autaugaville eight times. Was prevented by inclement weather once, while under a physician for sore throat once, and twice during a recent illness. I preached seventeen sermons at Autaugaville (one of which was to the colored people), made a number of visits to families not connected with the church, as well as those connected, baptized two, present membership twelve. I would report to the committee that though progress is slow I am not at all discouraged and am relying on the promises of our God. In my judgment the outlook is good. The church will still need assistance from the State Board.

W. J. RUDDICK.

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

Your committee find that the lives of the ministers of the Unity Association have been preserved. We thank God for thus extending the lives of our ministering brethren. Brethren, God has a purpose in this; study to learn that purpose and labor to accomplish it.

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. WILLIAMS.

AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS AND FAMILIES OF DECEASED MINISTERS.

Your committee beg leave to report that Eld. H. W. Watson is very infirm; Sister Goss is old and infirm. These are recommended to the Association as worthy of assistance.

Respectfully submitted.

O. W. SHERRER.

COMMITTEE ON LETTERS AND DOCUMENTS.

Your committee beg leave to submit the following report: We find only 10 prayer meetings reported in the letters and 15 Sunday Schools, with an average attendance of 660 officers and pupils. Only 9 churches report the amount paid their pastors for services. We are glad to note that most of the churches have contributed to missions and not a few to ministerial education. Two churches report aid rendered to the poor, orphans and widows. The churches seem to have forgotten almost entirely the indigent ministers of our country.

We find discrepancies arising in the statistics of Liberty, Pleasant Grove and Shiloh churches.

Mt. Olive church asks for a letter of dismission and we recommend it be granted.

We find a total gain of 44 members over last year, there having been 111 baptisms.

Autaugaville asks the State Board for help again; we recommend it be granted.

Two churches, Big Spring and Evergreen, ask for the Association next year. We do not feel disposed to recommend the Association in this matter.

We also find a letter addressed to the clerk asking for minutes of the Association for the purpose of collecting historical information, and would ask the brethren, one and all, to forward to him at Stanton all copies that can be done without.

W. N. HUCKABEE, Ch'n.

PERIODICALS.

Your committee report as follows: Pure reading informs the mind and instructs the heart of the reader.

We recommend as worthy of our support the ALABAMA BAPTIST and insist that all Baptist families should take that paper and give it their hearty support. If we should like to have any other denominational paper, we earnestly recommend the Foreign Mission Journal, Richmond, Va; The Home Field, Atlanta, Ga; The Christian Index, of Atlanta, Ga., and the publications of the American Baptist Publication Society.

I. G. WHITE, Ch'n.

SUB-MINISTERIAL BOARD.

We, the Sub-Board of Ministerial Education, beg leave to report that we endorsed Rev. J. W. Mitchell as the beneficiary of this Association, who has been going to school at Six Mile. The Board at Montgomery accepted our brother and has assisted him to the amount of \$90

Respectfully submitted,

W. N. HUCKABEE, Ch'n.

STATE MISSIONS.

Your committee on State Missions submit the following report: As a denomination we claim to be Missionary Baptist, yet there is not more than one-fourth of us who contribute to the cause; this ought not to be so. Were each one of us to contribute according as God has prospered us, which is the scriptural rule, there would be no lack of means to push forward the work that God has committed to our hands. It is not that our people are opposed to giving, but it is the want of information on the subject; they need to be taught it is more blessed to give than it is to receive, that God loveth a cheerful giver, and that Jesus commands, Go into all the world and preach: but we have failed to go and now Jesus has gone to the ends of the earth and gathered the people and set them in our midst, and says, Give ye them to eat. We must take these people for Christ or they will take our children for Satan. It is said there are mothers in Blocton and other towns who never heard the gospel preached.

Brethren, these are like bleeding Lazarus lying at our doors, begging the crumbs that fall from our tables. There are thousands of people perishing at our doors for the want of the gospel.

As the Lord has so abundantly blessed us this year with good crops, let us come up to the help of the board so that the gospel may be preached in all parts of our State and aid in driving destitution from our land. We recommend that the pastors of the various churches of this Association preach two mission sermons a year and take collections at least quarterly.

Respectfully,

J. W. MITCHELL, Ch'n.

HOME MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Home Missions beg leave to submit the following:

We think there is no subject of more importance than Home Missions

When we consider the increased population of our home field and the destitution therein, the question arises: What is to be done?

We find by examining the report made at the last session of the Southern Baptist Convention, that there is a large number of foreign emigrants in the States of Texas, Missouri and Louisiana. In Texas there are two hundred thousand Germans, one hundred thousand Mexicans and fifty thousand Norwegians and Swedes, a total foreign population of three hundred and fifty thousand. In Missouri there are six hundred thousand Germans. In Louisiana between one hundred and fifty and two hundred

thousand French, and it is fair to suppose that in the other States there is a like increased foreign population.

With these figures before us we see that something more must be done, that we may fully obey the command of our risen Lord; and in order that we be the better able to do this, be it

Resolved, That we strive to promote more unity and systematic co-operation to spread the gospel in our midst.

Should we learn the Bible rule and give accordingly, the work could be done. In 1 Cor. 16:1, 2 we find: "Now concerning the collection for the saints as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, so do ye upon the first day of the week lay by in store as God has prospered, that there be no gathering when I come."

Concerning the work in Cuba the news is gratifying and should cause us to thank God and take courage.

J. L. LONG, Ch'n.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The cause of missions is the cause of Christ; the spirit of missions the spirit of Christ; the furtherance of missions by actively engaging in promoting its objects, is alike demanded by fidelity to him, and loyalty to the cause he died to establish. When on the eve of ascension from the plains of Galilee, his earthly work being finished, he uttered his parting command to his disciples: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

This injunction comes sounding down the corridors of time alike addressed to us and his followers in the ages to come. His divine example illustrated the principle enjoined upon his disciples; forsaking the glories of Heaven, in the fullness of time, he came to a lost and ruined world, to bring the glad tidings of salvation.

In further exemplification of the Savior's mandate, we may note the example of the apostle Paul, the grandest character that has lived on the earth since the days of Jesus Christ, who left his own country and people and went to other lands to carry the news of the Cross to the Gentile world. The whole genius of the gospel is interfused and permeated with the mission spirit; abstract that and we have a lifeless corpse; without its possession an inert, dormant church, lacking in all that gives beauty and glory to its existence, and an individual membership having a name to live, and yet dead.

Not to be too tedious let us briefly glance at the field, the work to be done, and to what extent we are proving our faith by our works. We claim to be Missionary Baptists; let us see if we are honestly entitled to the appellation.

In round numbers the population of the world is 1,424,000,000, of which 394,000,000 only are nominally Christians, leaving 8,000,000 Jews, 170,000,000 Mahomedans and 856,000,000 Pagans who know not the name of Christ.

These figures are appalling in their magnitude and the work to be done inconceivably great, but it is God's work and in his name we will set up our banners.

In this country there is one Protestant minister to less than 800 of the population; in foreign mission lands there is one missionary to every 400,000 people. Now what are we going to do to relieve this destitution and fulfill the command of Christ? As to what we are doing, according to statistics in the minutes of the last Southern Baptist Convention, there are 181,237 Baptists in Alabama who contribute to all the objects fostered by the Convention \$105,723 77; of this number 91,261 are whites and 89,976 are colored; the whites give of the above amount \$93,591, on an average of \$1.03½ each, of which perhaps one-third, or about 34 cents, is for Mission purposes.

But to bring the matter a little closer home, the members of the Unity Association, last year, contributed for missions \$346.22 from a membership of 2,243, making an average per member of 16½ cents. Now, brethren, may I ask in all conscience, How long will it take to evangelize the world at this rate? It is estimated that \$300,000,000 are spent annually in the United

States for tobacco, and perhaps thrice that amount for intoxicating drinks. (Query—How much of this is expended by professing Christians?) But to make a closer application of this point, may I be allowed to propound the question: How many brethren of the Unity Association spend \$10, \$15 or \$20 annually for these harmful luxuries, and give the pitiful sum of 16 $\frac{1}{3}$ cents, or perhaps not that, to the cause of Christ?

Again it might be a pertinent inquiry: How many of us pay \$5 a year for Masonic Lodge, Knights of Pythias, or Farmers' Alliance dues, or more than that for personal luxuries that might be dispensed with, and satisfy our consciences by contributing 16 $\frac{1}{3}$ cents a year for the spread of the kingdom of God?

The door of nearly every nation of the earth stands wide open inviting us to enter and possess them for Christ; the fields are white unto harvest, awaiting the sickle of the reaper, and every breeze wafts across the ocean's wide expanse the Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us."

To occupy this vast territory, and respond to the demands of this fearful destitution, we have eighty-seven missionaries in the foreign field, male and female, and while they have forsaken home, friends and country for the Master's sake, we are sustaining them by giving of our abundance a few paltry cents, and many of us grumbling because, as we say, the preacher is always calling for money.

Brethren, God intends to use money as an important factor in the conversion of the world, and we might as well recognize the fact, and prepare to put our hands in our pockets and furnish it. And now shall we rise to the occasion and meet the demands of this overwhelming call of perishing souls, or go on at the poor dying rate of the past?

God has entrusted us as his stewards with means and money to prosecute this work, and he will require an account at our hands in a coming day of our stewardship.

God helping us, let us renew our vows and consecrate ourselves afresh to the Master's service, in order that we may take some part in ushering in the glorious dawn of that day when the "kingdoms of this world shall have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ."

All of which is respectfully submitted,

H. W. CAFFEY, Ch'n.

FAMILY TRAINING.

Your committee beg to submit the following report:

Christ says, "Let your light shine." This may apply to the church, but it applies to parents and others having children under their charge. We are taught the scriptures and therein we learn the art of training our children and those under our charge.

In the Bible we learn that man is fallen, that God is holy, that Christ is our example. The Bible is our guide to faith and practice.

In order to train up those around us we must be acquainted with the scriptures which give us instruction for training children.

"Parents, provoke not your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." We should set Christian examples before them, our words should be seasoned with grace, and our actions should say we have been with Christ. Like Enoch, we should walk with God.

Children are taught to honor their father and mother, that their days may be long upon the earth. Paul, in his epistle to the Ephesians, says: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." God says in his word, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Solomon says: "My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother; but hide them in thy heart, and bind them about thy neck, for they are more precious than fine gold." Let us take the Bible for our guide; it will be a lamp to our feet and a light on our path in training our dear ones for God.

G. W. MILLS, Ch'n.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

We beg leave to report the following:

1. That the Associational Sabbath-school Convention meet with Mulberry church the 3rd Sabbath and Saturday before in February, 1890. Committee on program—Pastor, Deacon and Superintendent of Sabbath-school.

District meetings as follows:

First district, with Bethesda church on Friday before the fifth Sabbath in December, 1889

Second district, with Friendship church Friday before the fifth Sabbath in March, 1890.

Third district, with Providence church Friday before the fifth Sabbath in July, 1890

Fourth district, with Pleasant Grove church Friday before the fifth Sabbath in September, 1890.

Committees on program are the pastors and deacons of the churches named.

Your committee find, by the small attendance at these conventions, that the interest in the Sabbath-school cause is diminishing, and therefore recommend that the Sabbath-schools and churches send such delegates to the Convention as may revive an interest.

THOS. DUBOSE, Ch'n.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Your committee beg leave to report that the cause of Ministerial Education has not received that support from our membership which its prominence deserves. Interest during the past year has been lagging, and had it not been for a large balance carried over from 1887 and 1888 the board would have had to report a deficit at the close of the scholastic year. During the year \$1876.85 was collected, a decrease of \$1200 over the previous year, and \$2343.58 was disbursed to 22 ministerial students in the seminary at Louisville, Howard College and different high schools. Ten or twelve students paid their own way. Among these, we suppose, was Bro. S. J. Strock, of Verbena.

This Association contributed about \$90 for the support of Bro. J.W. Mitchell at Six Mile, which has been paid over to him.

Bro. Mitchell deserves an education and we ought to help him. His teacher says he has worked like a man and his deportment and piety has won for him many friends among his present neighbors. Let us do more for this cause during the present year.

Brethren, this cause must not lag, it will repay the outlay with large interest, as our churches are now demanding a higher intelligence in their ministers and will result in glory for our blessed Master. Brethren, come to the help of the Lord in this great work.

W. J. RUDDICK, Ch'n.

The following churches, through their delegates, agreed to try and raise the following amounts:

Alpine.....	\$ 5 00
Autaugaville.....	5 00
Bethesda.....	5 00
Bethsalem.....	5 00
Big Spring.....	5 00
Bozeman.....	25 00
Chestnut Creek.....	5 00
Clanton.....	10 00
Corinth.....	2 00
Ebenezer.....	12 00
Evergreen.....	5 00
Fellowship.....	5 00
Friendship.....	2 00
Harmony.....	4 00
Liberty.....	5 00
Mt. Carmel.....	3 00
Mulberry.....	10 00
Plantersville.....	15 00
Pleasant Grove.....	2 00
Providence.....	5 00

Shady Grove.....	15 00
Shiloh	5 00
Valley Creek.....	5 00
Verbena.....	25 00

INDIVIDUAL PLEDGES.

W. N. Huckabee.....	5 00
J. M. McCord.....	5 00
J. L. Long.....	1 00
W. J. Ruddick.....	2 00
G. W. Mills.....	2 00
Total.....	\$200 00

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your committee to whom was referred the report on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to submit the following report:

As to the Sabbath School Convention we have no definite report, not being able to attend in person. We have information from brethren who attended. The convention was poorly attended, there being only 6 or 7 churches represented that reported Sabbath Schools, with about 400 pupils; only two ministers were present.

Your committee, in laying before you this annual report, beg to submit in connection the following remarks in regard to Sabbath School work:

1st. Why should the Sabbath School hold such an important relation to the church? Because, without it, no protracted continuance in the ways of grace can be obtained. The child springing up into manhood without a deep foundation of great religious truths, thoroughly explained, and ingrained in his nature by a regular attendance at Sunday School, is more than likely, no matter how Christian may be the surroundings of his home life, to wander away from grace, in his contact with the interest of worldly life. Consequently the spiritual and numerical advancement of the church is checked.

2nd. What is its object? To instill not only into the minds of the youthful members of the church a clear understanding of the principles of their faith, but also to build the elder portion of the community into an earnest band of workers, through whom an all-absorbing interest in the eternal welfare of their children and neighbors permeates, and whose labor shall result in benefit to themselves and the church.

3d. Who compose its officers and teachers? Those who through years or peculiarity of circumstances have acquired the greatest experience, which being applied, may hold together a society formed for such high purposes, and as regards teachers, those who are best fitted by Providence in the disposition to take a special interest in the young and the imparting of knowledge.

4th. What is its relation to the church? It may be likened to that of mother and child. For in the Sunday School the future member draws those ideas of eternal life, with which in common with his fellow members, he is not only to strive for his own salvation and good, but also for those of his fellow men, and (as the child is father to the man) in learning to control, guide, aid, and expedite the affairs of the church and to advance the common good.

5th. Its literature. We respectfully recommend the publications of the American Baptist Publication Society and Kind Words, and that the parents encourage the good work by an actual attendance.

S. B. WILDER, Ch'n.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Your Committee on Education beg leave to report that from the best information that we can get, the cause of education is receiving more attention from the masses than it has hitherto received. High schools are being established in various places, and are being supported by the people.

It is gratifying to be able to report the prosperity of the Howard College at East Lake. Under the new management every thing seems to be prospering—and in a prosperous condition. The prospect for a good attendance is

better than it has been in twenty years or more and if it can have the support and influence of the Baptists of Alabama they will have a school that they will be proud of.

The Judson Female Institute at Marion has, Phoenix like, risen from its ashes, and it has a building near completion which is an honor to the state and the Baptist denomination, and its prospects for the future are very bright.

We would earnestly recommend the Baptists of our Associations who have sons and daughters to educate to patronize and support our denominational schools, where they will be taught nothing that will prejudice their minds against Baptist usages. It is the duty of all parents to give their children as good an education as it is in their power so to do; it is something that cannot be taken from them and will benefit them during life.

A. A. DYER, Ch'n.

TEMPERANCE.

Your committee to whom was referred the report on Temperance, respectfully report that after examining the report they decided to offer the following as a substitute:

The Temperance cause in our bounds is onward and upward; we are satisfied the cause is taking deeper root in the minds and consciences of our people and we urge them to steadfast and earnest work for still wider extension. We urge upon the brethren the importance of teaching the children around the firesides, as we believe it the safest plan for its continuance.

O. W. SHERRER, Ch'n.

FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance beg leave to report the contributions as follows:

State Missions	\$ 62 52
Home Missions	17 23
Foreign Missions	98 55
Ministerial Education	116 12
Minutes	51 10
Associational Purposes	29 65
Sunday Schools	13 03
Colportage.....	2 00
Judson Institute.....	61 00
Womens' Mission.....	4 00
Howard College	16 00
Collection for Missions.....	23 16
Total	\$594 36
In Vouchers	\$334 41
In Cash	259 95
Total	\$594 36

W. A. SMITH, Ch'n.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

K. Wells in account with Unity Association:—

To amount from the churches	\$594 36
By Vouchers.....	\$334 41
By W. J. Ruddick, Minutes, etc.....	70 00
By W. B. Crumpton, Missions.....	189 95
Total.....	\$594 36

ORDAINED MINISTERS OF THE UNITY ASSOCIATION.

Andrews, A	Burnsville,	Ala.
Bice, Isaac	Verbena,	"
Caldwell, J. R.	Deatsville,	"
Elam, J. T.	Randolph,	"
Hare, C. W.	Verbena,	"
Huckabee, W. N.	Plantersville,	"
Jones, H.	Verbena,	"
Johnson, J. R.	Deatsville,	"
Lawrence, J. N.	Maplesville,	"

McCord, J. M.....	Stanton,	"
Mills, G. W.....	Plantersville,	"
Mitchell, J. W.....	Six Mile,	"
Mallens, J. A	Clanton,	"
Olive, G. P	Verbena,	"
Ruddick, W. J	Stanton,	"
Selman, J. M.....	Randolph,	"
Watson, H. W.....	Randolph,	"
Billingsley, C. C.....	Kincheon,	"

LICENTIATES.

Taylor, John.....	Verbena,	Ala.
Thacker, J. M.....	Clanton,	"
Wood, W. M	Lily,	"
Patrick, A. G.....	Kincheon,	"
Billingsley, T. J.....	Kincheon,	"

DISTRICTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

First—Alpine, Autaugaville, Bethesda, Evergreen, Fellowship, Harmony, Plantersville, Shady Grove, Bethel.

Second—Bethsalem, Big Spring, Bozeman, Friendship, Liberty, New Prospect, Shiloh, Verbena.

Third—Cane Creek, Chestnut Creek, Clanton, Corinth, Mt. Zion.

Fourth—Chestnut Hill, Ebenezer, Mt. Carmel, Mulberry, Pleasant Grove, Pilgrim's Rest, Randolph, Sardis, Valley Creek.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one only living and true God—the Father, Son and Holy Ghost; these three are one—1 Corinthians 8:6; Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 John 5:7.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only correct rule of faith and practice—2 Peter 1:21; 2 Timothy 3:16.

3. We believe in the doctrine of election, and that God chose his people in Christ before the foundation of the world, through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth—1 Peter 1:25; Ephesians 1:4; 2 Thessalonians 2:13.

4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin—Romans 3:23; 5:12; 3:10.

5. We believe in man's inability to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature—Romans 5:6; John 6:44; Ephesians 2:1-5; Philipians 2:13.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ—Romans 5:1; Galatians 2:16-20.

7. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away—2 Corinthians 12:9; Colossians 3:4; Romans 8:38, 39.

8. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper are ordinances of the church of Christ, and that true believers are the only proper subjects, and that immersion only is baptism—Matthew 3:5, 6, 13, 16; Acts 2:37, 38; Acts 8:38, 39.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment—Acts 17:31; John 5:28-29.

10. We believe that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting—Matthew 25:46.

11. We believe that no minister has the right to administer the ordinances except those who are called of God and have been regularly baptized, approved by the church and come under the imposition of hands by a Presbytery—1 Timothy 4:14; Acts 26:16.

12. We believe that none but regularly baptized believers have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper—Acts 2:42-44; 2 Corinthians 6:14; 1 Corinthians 11:23, 29.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be known as "THE UNITY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION," and shall be composed of delegates from such churches as constitute, or may hereafter unite with this body.

ART. 2. The design of its labors shall be to promote the cause of Christ and to encourage those objects supported by Baptists generally.

ART. 3 This Association shall hold its sessions annually, at such a time and place as it may appoint.

ART. 4. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, a Clerk and a Treasurer—to be elected at each session—who shall perform all the duties appertaining to such offices in similar bodies; and in case of the absence of any officer, one pro tem shall be appointed by the Association until an election is declared.

ART. 5. A record of the proceedings of this Association shall be kept by the Clerk, and, as soon as practicable after the close of each session, he shall superintend the printing of the minutes thereof, and shall furnish each church with a suitable number of copies.

ART. 6 Any church subscribing to our Abstract of Faith may be admitted into this Association by consent of the members in session.

ART. 7. Any church orthodox in faith and practice, which has complied with this Constitution, may withdraw from this body by the consent of a majority of the members in session.

ART. 8. This Association, in regular session, may dissolve its connection with any church which may differ with it in doctrine or practice.

ART. 9. Any church of this Association, with thirty members or less, shall be entitled to two delegates, and one additional delegate for every additional twenty-five members or fractional part thereof.

ART. 10. It shall be the duty of each church to forward a written communication to every session, specifying the names of its delegates and the state of the church.

ART. 11. If a difficulty should arise in a church, which cannot be settled thereby, the church shall call aid from two or more sister churches; if the matter cannot then be adjusted, it shall be referred to the Association for advice.

ART. 12 All queries must be acted upon by the churches in which they may originate, and when they fail to be disposed of therein, must be reported, by letter, to the Association; the decision thereof shall be considered an advisory answer.

ART. 13. This Association shall have a fund supplied by the voluntary contributions of the churches, and all moneys thus contributed shall be transmitted and paid over to the Finance Committee, and said committee to pay over to the Treasurer.

ART. 14. Any article of this Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the delegates present at any regular session.

Amendment to Constitution adopted October, 1886:

This body, realizing the great value of Sabbath-schools, will hold a Sabbath-school Convention annually, within its bounds, at such time and place as may be fixed

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

2. The officers of the Association shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.

3. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have discretionary right to call to order at any time.

4. Any member not satisfied with this decision may appeal to the Association the same day, but at no other time.

5. But one member shall speak at a time, and he shall rise, and obtaining permission, proceed; such permission being signified by the Moderator naming the person, or otherwise.

6. No person shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject; and every motion made and seconded, in order shall come under the consideration of the Association, and be decided, unless withdrawn by him who made it.

7. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided or withdrawn before another is offered.

8. When a question has been introduced, and sufficient time allowed for debate, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association upon the subject; those in the affirmative shall make it known by saying aye, and those

in the negative, nay. If a division on the question is called for, the decision shall be made by the members rising to their feet.

9 The appellation "brother" shall be used in the Association when one brother addresses another, but this article shall not be so construed as to ignore the Moderator.

10 Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the Moderator.

11 The names of the delegates shall be called as often as the Association shall direct.

12 The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he appoints another to his seat; but shall not vote unless the Association be equally divided. He may also appoint committees necessary for transacting any business that may, from time to time, come before the Association.

13 Any member violating these rules shall be reproved by the Moderator, but only on the day such violation occurs.

14 These rules shall be read at the opening of every session of the Association, and may be altered or amended whenever a majority of the membership present shall deem it necessary.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF UNITY ASSOCIATION.

CHURCHES.

	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	State Missions.	Indigent Ministers	Bible and Colportage.	Ministerial Education—Howard College.	Minutes.	Associational Purposes.	S. S. Benevolence.	S. S. Expenses.	Women's Society, Foreign Missions.	Women's Society, State Missions.	Howard College.	Anderson Building.	Total.	Pastor's Salary.	Repairs, Fuel, the Poor, Etc.	Value of Church Building and Furniture.
Alpine.....	1 15	1 80	1 15			1 00	1 00	1 00			1 00				10 60	75 00		250
Anaangville.....					50	1 00	1 00								1000			1000
Bethel—not represented.....																		
Bethesda.....	1 50	1 50	3 50				1 50	1 50		5 00					14 50	75 00		400
Bethslem.....							1 50								1 50			
Big Spring.....							1 50	1 50							3 00	100 00		450
Bozeman.....	16 60	16 60	17 60			25 00	2 50								78 30			
Cane Creek.....		5 85	5 00			5 00	2 00			8 50					2 00			
Chestnut Creek.....							1 50								26 85	150 00		600
Chestnut Hill—not represented.....															56 50			200
Clanton.....			32 00			10 00	2 00			12 50					7 92			600
Corinth.....		6 82					1 10											
Ebenezer.....	1 36	1 36	15 51		5 03	2 07	2 50	2 50	16 76	18 79			2 50	6 00	74 08	130 00	126 85	2200
Evergreen.....	6 25					3 10	3 00								12 35	65 00		600
Fellowship.....			7 90			5 00	3 00								15 90	100 00	80 00	600
Friendship.....	2 00	2 00	3 50	50			1 50			3 00					72 50			300
Harmony.....	85	75	3 25			4 65	1 50	1 50							17 00	100 00		500
Liberty.....	1 95	1 00	18 20		1 50		1 00				3 00				22 15		48 50	500
Mt. Carmel.....			2 85			3 00	2 50								8 83	100 00		450
Mt. Olive.....							1 00			2 00					3 00	30 00	20 00	300
Mt. Zion.....			7 12			5 00	2 00								8 62			
Mulberry.....	9 70	9 70					2 00								26 40	150 00		850
New Prospect—not represented.....																		
Pleasant Grove.....						15 00	1 50	1 50							18 00			200
Plantersville.....						2 00	2 00								2 00			
Pilgrim's Rest—not represented.....							2 00											
Providence.....			5 45				2 00								7 45			
Randolph.....			5 70				1 50								7 20			800
Sardis.....							1 50								1 50			300
Shady Grove.....						10 00	2 00	3 00						10 00	25 00			300
Shiloh.....			6 25				2 00								8 25			300
Valley Creek.....	1 00	1 50	4 00				1 50								8 00	50 00	17 60	100
Verhena.....	12 72	36 77	42 51			27 50	3 25	13 65	8 00					45 00	89 40	525 00		2500
Collections at Association.....			23 16												23 16			
Totals.....	\$ 55 08	\$ 85 65	\$ 207 65	50	\$ 7 08	\$ 116 32	\$53 35	\$26 15	\$24 76	\$49 79	1 00	3 00	2 20	\$51 00	\$ 633 48		\$ 292 95	\$ 14,700

STATISTICS OF UNITY ASSOCIATION—1889.

CHURCH.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S P. O.	Membership last	Increase by				Decrease by				Present Membership.	Officers and Teachers.	Pupils.	Preaching Sabbaths.	Reports Prayer-meeting.	Reports Revival.
						Baptism.	Letter.	Voucher.	Restoration.	Letter.	Exclusion.	Dispute.	Death.						
Alpine.....	Chilton.....	G. W. Mills.....	J. E. McCullough.....	Dixie.....	85	4	.....	4	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	12	12	.....	4	.....	.....
Autaugaville.....	Autauga.....	W. J. Ruddick.....	W. A. Debarclaben.....	Autaugaville.....	10	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	12	30	4	1	.....
Bethel—not rep.....	Autauga.....	W. N. Huckabee.....	J. H. Bates.....	Independence.....	47	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	44	4	30	4	.....	.....
Bethesda.....	Chilton.....	T. E. Taylor.....	J. R. Vinson.....	Kincheon.....	34	10	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45	4	30	4	.....	.....
Big Spring.....	Autauga.....	W. N. Huckabee.....	J. M. Willis.....	Billingsley.....	85	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	87	6	25	3	.....	.....
Bozeman.....	Autauga.....	I. C. Wright.....	C. H. Morgan.....	Bozeman.....	71	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75	6	80	2	1	1
Cane Creek.....	Chilton.....	Joan Bone.....	M. A. Kilgoer.....	Jumbo.....	48	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	33	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chestnut Creek.....	Chilton.....	A. E. Burns.....	J. H. Griffiths.....	Coopers.....	87	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	86	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chestnut Hill.....	Chilton.....	A. E. Burns.....	J. H. Aldridge.....	Clanton.....	42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Clanton.....	Chilton.....	J. L. Long.....	W. D. Gosnell.....	Verben.....	78	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	77	12	65	4	.....	.....
Cornth.....	Chilton.....	J. M. McCord.....	J. A. Stephens.....	Stanton.....	66	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	69	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Epenezer.....	Dallas.....	W. J. Ruddick.....	J. M. Williams.....	Monroeville.....	90	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	90	9	93	3	1	.....
Fellowship.....	Chilton.....	W. J. Ruddick.....	J. L. Long.....	Verben.....	149	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	149	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Friendship.....	Elmore.....	J. L. Long.....	G. W. Taylor.....	Verben.....	68	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Harmony.....	Autauga.....	W. N. Huckabee.....	O. K. Holland.....	Milton.....	52	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Liberty.....	Autauga.....	J. L. Long.....	W. W. Sansom.....	Deatsville.....	84	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	66	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mt. Carmel.....	Chilton.....	W. J. Ruddick.....	W. Miller.....	Stanton.....	88	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	82	5	40	1	1	.....
Mt. Olive.....	Perry.....	A. M. Perry.....	J. T. Connell.....	Adler.....	35	2	16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	68	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mt. Zion.....	Chilton.....	G. W. Riggs.....	A. W. Connell.....	Strasburg.....	89	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	78	7	40	2	.....	.....
Mulberry.....	Chilton.....	A. E. Burns.....	J. L. Williams.....	Randolph.....	114	20	5	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	137	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Prospect.....	Autauga.....	G. W. Mills.....	D. M. Martin.....	Plantersville.....	26	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Plantersville.....	Dallas.....	H. W. Watson.....	J. H. Shultz.....	Maplesville.....	58	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	64	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pleasant Grove.....	Chilton.....	W. J. Bone.....	H. G. Thompson.....	Clanton.....	26	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pilgrim's Rest.....	Chilton.....	S. M. Adams.....	J. M. Patrick.....	Randolph.....	122	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	118	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Providence.....	Bibb.....	A. Andrews.....	Hardy Jones.....	Kincheon.....	36	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37	8	50	3	1	.....
Randolph.....	Chilton.....	W. N. Huckabee.....	E. J. Owens.....	Selma.....	25	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Savits.....	Dallas.....	J. C. Wright.....	A. J. Brooks.....	Verben.....	34	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shady Grove.....	Chilton.....	W. N. Huckabee.....	J. H. Apperson.....	Milton.....	113	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	96	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shiloh.....	Chilton.....	W. N. Huckabee.....	J. H. Apperson.....	Milton.....	56	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Valley Creek.....	Chilton.....	W. N. Huckabee.....	J. H. Apperson.....	Milton.....	104	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	89	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Verben.....	Chilton.....	W. N. Huckabee.....	J. H. Apperson.....	Milton.....	50	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59	8	70	4	1	1
Evergreen.....	Autauga.....	W. N. Huckabee.....	J. H. Apperson.....	Milton.....	50	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59	8	70	4	1	1
Total.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2065	105	94	2	9	146	38	12	17	2062	65	488	.....	8	6

Mt. Olive Church dismissed to Cahaba Association.

TIME AND PLACES OF MEETING AND OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION FROM ITS ORIGIN TO THE PRESENT.

Year.	Place of Meeting.	Preacher of Introductory Sermon.	Moderator.	Clerk.	Treasurer.
1855	Shady Grove.....	J. R. Sartor.....	B. B. Smith...	J. N. Gradick..	J. Nunn.
1856	Plantersville.....	A. C. Patillo.....	B. B. Smith...	J. I. Lamar....	J. Nunn.
1857	Mulberry.....	A. Andrews.....	B. B. Smith...	J. I. Lamar....	J. Nunn.
1858	Kingston.....	D. M. Lloyd.....	J. D. Moodie...	J. I. Lamar....	J. Nunn.
1859	Harmony.....	J. H. Ray.....	J. U. Wilkes...	J. I. Lamar....	J. Nunn.
1860	Ebenezer.....	J. D. Moodie.....	J. U. Wilkes...	J. I. Lamar....	J. Nunn.
1861	Chestnut Creek.....	W. Wilkes.....	J. U. Wilkes...	J. I. Lamar....	L. B. Parker.
1862	Bethesda.....	A. Andrews.....	J. U. Wilkes...	A. L. Haralson.	L. B. Parker.
1863	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1864	Randolph.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1865	Plantersville.....	A. Andrews.....	A. Andrews...	W. R. Grandy..	L. B. Parker.
1866	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1867	Fellowship.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1868	Harmony.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1869	Bethel.....	A. Andrews.....	A. Andrews...	W. C. Adair...	L. B. Parker.
1870	Mt. Hebron.....	W. Lee.....	A. Andrews...	W. C. Adair...	L. B. Parker.
1871	Mulberry.....	J. Allen.....	A. Andrews...	W. C. Adair...	L. B. Parker.
1872	Chestnut Creek.....	W. Lee.....	A. Andrews...	J. L. Williams..	W. C. Adair.
1873	Big Springs.....	J. A. Mullens.....	A. Andrews...	H. E. Longcrier	W. C. Adair.
1874	Plantersville.....	G. W. Mills.....	A. Andrews...	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1875	Mt. Zion.....	W. Lee.....	William Lee...	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1876	Ebenezer.....	J. A. Mullens.....	William Lee...	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1877	Harmony.....	A. Andrews.....	William Lee...	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1878	Chestnut Creek.....	F. M. Vines.....	A. Andrews...	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1879	Fellowship.....	A. L. Blizard.....	A. Andrews...	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1880	Bethesda.....	G. W. Mills.....	J. Falkner.....	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1881	Mulberry.....	H. E. Longcrier.	J. Falkner.....	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1882	Shiloh.....	A. Andrew.....	J. Falkner.....	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1883	Randolph.....	G. W. Mills.....	J. Falkner.....	H. E. Longcrier	K. Wells.
1884	Harmony.....	W. N. Huckabee.	J. Falkner.....	T. M. Henley...	K. Wells.
1885	Friendship.....	J. A. Mullens.....	A. J. Brooks...	T. M. Henley...	K. Wells.
1886	Clanton.....	Hardy Jones.....	A. J. Brooks...	T. M. Henley...	K. Wells.
1887	Plantersville.....	J. Falkner.....	A. J. Brooks...	T. M. Henley...	K. Wells.
1888	Verbena.....	W. J. Ruddick....	A. J. Brooks...	W. J. Ruddick..	K. Wells.
1889	Ebenezer.....	S. N. Mills.....	A. J. Brooks...	W. J. Ruddick..	K. Wells.

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CHICAGO: 122 Wabash Avenue;
ST. LOUIS: 1109 Olive Street;
ATLANTA: 66½ Whitehall Street.